

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1357130-0

Total Deleted Page(s) = 29

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Page 9 ~ b6; b7C;
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Page 66 ~ Duplicate;
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X Deleted Page(s) X
X No Duplication Fee X
X For this Page X
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 10/09/1998

To: Cleveland

Attn: SSRA [REDACTED]

From: Cleveland

Painesville RA

Contact: SA [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

Approved By: [REDACTED]

Drafted By: [REDACTED] jag

Case ID #: 9A-CV-NEW (Pending)

Title: [REDACTED]

STEVEN C. LATOURETTE - VICTIM;
EXTORTION

b6
b7C

Synopsis: To recommend opening of the above captioned case.

Details: Attached hereto and made part of this communication is one copy of a seven page letter addressed to [REDACTED] from [REDACTED].

On October 5, 1998, the writer received the above letter from [REDACTED] for Steven C. LaTourette, United States Congressman. The above letter was sent via certified mail to [REDACTED] from the above captioned subject. The letter alleges

b6
b7C

[REDACTED]
Lake County Prosecutor Steven LaTourette "made sure of that." The subject states that all he wants is [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

On October 5, 1998, writer spoke with Congressman LaTourette and was advised that the above captioned subject, hereinafter referred to as [REDACTED] had been contacting LaTourette, and local and Federal authorities for approximately thirteen years. Congressman LaTourette was concerned that [REDACTED] knew his home address [REDACTED] Congressman LaTourette has met [REDACTED] several times throughout his career as the Lake County Prosecutor and currently as a United States Congressman. LaTourette advised [REDACTED] complaint first came to his attention when LaTourette was the

b6
b7C

CPI-NONE

OXA
9A

9A-CV-59110-1

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 13 1998	
FBI - CLEVELAND	

282JAGOL.EC

To: Cleveland From: Cleveland
Re: 9A-CV-NEW, 10/09/1998

Lake County Prosecutor. LaTourette advised he researched the complaint and found it to have no substance. LaTourette stated it appeared as though [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

[REDACTED] has visited LaTourette's Painesville Congressional office several times but has never displayed any aggressive and/or violent behavior. LaTourette further stated [REDACTED] usually [REDACTED] making claims similar to the ones found in the enclosed letter. LaTourette stated he has contacted [REDACTED] lawyer, and has not received a return call from [REDACTED] as of October 5, 1998. LaTourette believes that [REDACTED] may be mentally unstable and may pose a security problem in the future.

Writer also contacted [REDACTED] Special Agent, United States Secret Service (USSS) in Cleveland, Ohio. [REDACTED] advised the writer that there was no record of [REDACTED] in the USSS data base. Writer also spoke to [REDACTED] Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO). [REDACTED] stated [REDACTED] is an unstable individual, but believes [REDACTED] to be relatively harmless. [REDACTED] stated if the letters continue, the LCSO may pursue harassment charges against [REDACTED]

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b7C

Writer then contacted [REDACTED] Madison Village Police Department, Madison, Ohio, and requested an increased patrol in the area of LaTourette's residence thru October 31, 1998. Writer also provided [REDACTED] with a description of [REDACTED] and a description of [REDACTED] vehicle.

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b7C

On October 7, 1998, the writer conferred with Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) [REDACTED]

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b7C

[REDACTED] is described as follows:

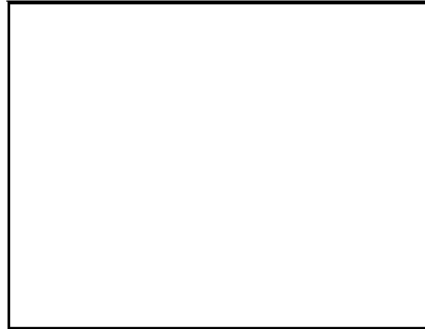
Name:
Race:
Sex:
Height:

--

To: Cleveland From: Cleveland
Re: 9A-CV-NEW, 10/09/1998

Weight:
Eyes:
Hair:
Date of Birth:
Social Security
Account Number:
Place of Birth:
Address:

Miscellaneous:



b6
b7C

In light of the foregoing, and the additional
investigative request, it is recommended this case be opened and
assigned to SA 

b6
b7C

♦♦



FBI FACSIMILE COVERSHEET

PRECEDENCE

- ☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☒ Routine

CLASSIFICATION

- ☐ Top Secret
☐ Secret
☐ Confidential
☐ Sensitive
☒ Unclassified

Time Transmitted: _____

Sender's Initials: lfNumber of Pages: 4

(including coversheet)

To: CLEVELAND

Name of Office

Date: 10/19/98

Facsimile Number: _____

Attn: _____

Name

Room

Telephone

From: AKRON

Name of Office

Subject: _____

Special Handling Instructions: PLS CALL ME W/ FILE #

Originator's Name: _____

Telephone: _____

Originator's Facsimile Number: _____

Approved: _____

Brief Description of Communication Faxed: 9A-NEW ECb6
b7Cb6
b7C

(01/26/1998)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 10/09/1998

To: Cleveland

Attn: SSRA [REDACTED]

From: Cleveland

Painesville RA

Contact: SA [REDACTED]

Approved By: [REDACTED]

Drafted By: [REDACTED] F:jag

Case ID #: 9A-CV-NEW (Pending)

Title: [REDACTED]

STEVEN C. LATOURETTE - VICTIM;
EXTORTION

Synopsis: To recommend opening of the above captioned case.

Details: Attached hereto and made part of this communication is one copy of a seven page letter addressed to [REDACTED] from [REDACTED].

On October 5, 1998, the writer received the above letter from [REDACTED] for Steven C. LaTourette, United States Congressman. The above letter was sent via certified mail to [REDACTED] from the above captioned subject. The letter alleges

[REDACTED]
Lake County Prosecutor Steven LaTourette "made sure of that." The subject states that all he wants is [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

On October 5, 1998, writer spoke with Congressman LaTourette and was advised that the above captioned subject, hereinafter referred to as [REDACTED] had been contacting LaTourette, and local and Federal authorities for approximately thirteen years. Congressman LaTourette was concerned that [REDACTED] knew his home address [REDACTED] Congressman LaTourette has met [REDACTED] several times throughout his career as the Lake County Prosecutor and currently as a United States Congressman. LaTourette advised [REDACTED] complaint first came to his attention when LaTourette was the

SSRA [REDACTED]

OAK 10/9/98
9A

9A-CV-59110-1

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 19 1998	
FBI - CLEVELAND	

To: Cleveland From: Cleveland
Re: 9A-CV-NEW, 10/09/1998

Lake County Prosecutor. LaTourette advised he researched the complaint and found it to have no substance. LaTourette stated it appeared as though [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

[REDACTED] has visited LaTourette's Painesville Congressional office several times but has never displayed any aggressive and/or violent behavior. LaTourette further stated [REDACTED] usually [REDACTED] making claims similar to the ones found in the enclosed letter. LaTourette stated he has contacted [REDACTED] lawyer, and has not received a return call from [REDACTED] as of October 5, 1998. LaTourette believes that [REDACTED] may be mentally unstable and may pose a security problem in the future.

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b7C

Writer also contacted [REDACTED] Special Agent, United States Secret Service (USSS) in Cleveland, Ohio. [REDACTED] advised the writer that there was no record of [REDACTED] in the USSS data base. Writer also spoke to [REDACTED] Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO). [REDACTED] stated [REDACTED] is an unstable individual, but believes [REDACTED] to be relatively harmless. [REDACTED] stated if the letters continue, the LCSO may pursue harassment charges against [REDACTED]

Writer then contacted [REDACTED] Madison Village Police Department, Madison, Ohio, and requested an increased patrol in the area of LaTourette's residence thru October 31, 1998. Writer also provided [REDACTED] with a description of [REDACTED] and a description of [REDACTED] vehicle.

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b7C

On October 7, 1998, the writer conferred with Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) Gary Arbezniak. Arbezniak informed the writer that the contents of the enclosed letter do not rise to the level of a threat and lack sufficient evidence per Title 18, Section 875 of the United States Code. Arbezniak requested the FBI investigate the alleged incident in [REDACTED] letter where [REDACTED] Arbezniak further requested the FBI interview [REDACTED] and advised him he is to direct all correspondence directly to public officials and not [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] is described as follows:

Name:
Race:
Sex:
Height:

--

OCT-19-1998 10:52 FROM FBI AKRON OH RA
OCT-16-1998 14:47 FBI PRINESVILLE OHIO RA

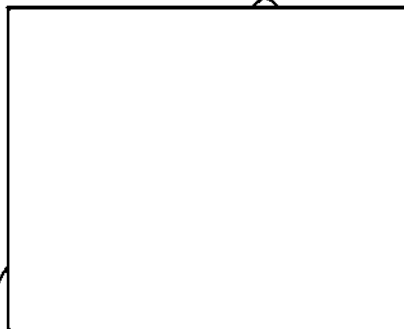
TO

CLEVELAND P.04

To: Cleveland From: Cleveland
Re: 9A-CV-NEW, 10/09/1998

Weight:
Eyes:
Hair:
Date of Birth:
Social Security
Account Number:
Place of Birth:
Address:

Miscellaneous:



In light of the foregoing, and the additional
investigative request, it is recommended this case be opened and
assigned to SA [redacted]

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[illegible]

1A ①

Universal Case File Number 9A-CV-59110Field Office Acquiring Evidence Cleveland

Serial # of Originating Document _____

Date Received 10-5-98

From _____

(Name of Contributor)

for Congressman LaTourrette1 VICTORIA PLACE, RM. 320

(Address of Contributor)

Painesville, Ohio

(City and State)

b6

b7C

By SA _____

(Name of Special Agent)

To Be Returned ☐ Yes ☒ NoReceipt Given ☐ Yes ☒ No

Grand Jury Material - Disseminate Only Pursuant to Rule 6 (e)

Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure

☐ Yes ☒ No

Title: _____

Reference: _____

(Communication Enclosing Material)

Description: ☐ Original notes re interview ofLetter sent tofrom

b6

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& Certified mail envelope.

b6

b7C

EP-14F January 1998

© USPS 1995



U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PRINESVILLE, OH
44077
OCT 01 '98
AMOUNT

0000

\$2.45
00024352-12



0000

AMOUNT

\$3.00

U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PRINESVILLE, OH
44077
OCT 01 '98
00024352-12
44057



**PRIORITY
MAIL**

Fold at line over top of envelope to
the right of the return address

CERTIFIED

Z 538 356 510

MAIL

or on label (if provided)



Indicated in upper right hand corner.



3. ATTACH LABEL (if provided)
Remove label backing and adhere
over customer address block area
(white area).

www.usps.gov

b6
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b6
b7C

The efficient FLAT RATE ENVELOPE.

You don't have to weigh the envelope... Just pack all your correspondence and documents inside and pay only
the 2 lb. Priority Mail postage rate.

We Deliver.

1A(2)

FD-340 (Rev. 8-18-89)

Universal File Case Number 9A-CV-59110

Field Office Acquiring Evidence Cleveland

Serial # of Originating Document _____

Date Received 10-9-98

From _____
(Name of Contributor)

(Address of Contributor)

(City and State)

By SA _____
(Name of Special Agent)

b6
b7C

To Be Returned ☐ Yes ☒ No

Receipt Given ☐ Yes ☒ No

Grand Jury Material - Disseminate Only Pursuant to Rule 6 (e)

Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure

☐ Yes ☒ No

Title:

Reference: _____
(Communication Enclosing Material)

Description: ☒ Original notes re interview of

b6
b7C

[Redacted]

10-9-98

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b7C

→ [Redacted] 1st. & flowed over to Lat.
Lat did nothing -

b6
b7C

1st.

[Redacted]

b6
b7C

an FL. Now.

2nd.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

3rd.
4th.

[Redacted]

WICKLIFFE P.D.

[Complaint] 1986

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

b6
b7C

[Redacted]

Said cannot file P.D. report against

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

b6
b7C

Misc. questions.

→ Next day told LaTourrette:

"Oh that's nothing, just playing
headgames."

□ "What comes around goes around, & I'll
do it."

LaT. laughed @ him.

→ Went to Chev. FBI.

Unk. Agent said, he smells a rat
in a woodpile.

-3-

→ Couldn't get atty to handle her
case in Lake County. Scared.

Got one in Clev,

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Lat did not respond to [redacted] calls
& ltrs.

→ [redacted] revisited Lat. & wrote ltrs.

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b7C

"Now & days people forge documents
& you can't find who's who."

→ [redacted] said Lat. should have taken case

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b7C

[redacted]

b6
b7C

-let-

- Called [redacted]
Then Non-Loop.

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b7C

- Everyone @ [redacted] involved w/ this

[redacted]

~~Handwritten scribble~~

→

[redacted]

Atty. Gen.

[redacted]

b6
b7C

[redacted]

Tried to make appt. to sit down w/

[redacted]

[redacted]

Uncoop.

[redacted]

[redacted]

Called in by Cal. Cnty. Prosecutor for
harassment [redacted]

→ Can't remember name.

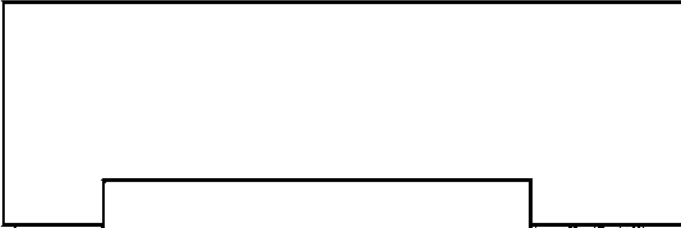
No charges, pros. said.

This should never have happened.

[redacted]

Handwritten scribble

-S-



CCSD.

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b7C

did you wrong, but
do not get another atty. you'll
get in trouble.

→ '1996

Complained to Chief of WPD, Mayor, etc.

→ [redacted] was either let go or resigned

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→ A p.o. said there were orders from
Lat to not investigate.

"I'm the boss nobody tells me
what to do."

→ Wrote 2 ltrs. to Steve Lat approx.
1 month ago.

- 1 -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 10/15/98

[redacted]
Ohio, date of birth [redacted] social security account number [redacted]
[redacted] was advised of the identity of the interviewing agent and the purpose of the interview. He then provided the following information:

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[redacted] was being interviewed regarding a letter sent to [redacted] STEVEN LATOURETTE, United States Congressman, 19th Congressional District, Ohio. [redacted] was interviewed in the presence of [redacted]
[redacted] Lake County Sheriff's Office, Painesville, Ohio.

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Approximately thirteen years ago, [redacted]

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[redacted] first approached Lake County Prosecutor JOHN SHOOP with the above problem. [redacted] explained SHOOP only had six months remaining as the Lake County Prosecutor and [redacted] advised [redacted] to take up this matter with STEVEN LATOURETTE who had just been elected as the new Lake County Prosecutor. [redacted] stated LATOURETTE did nothing and when [redacted] advised he wanted to file a police report, LATOURETTE encouraged him to do so.

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Investigation on 10/09/98 at [redacted] Ohio

File # 9A-CV-59110 Date dictated 10/13/98

by SA [redacted] jag *(signature)*

b6
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9A-CV-59110-4

9A-CV-

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 10/09/98 , Page 2

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[REDACTED]

Wickliffe Police Department and was advised by [REDACTED] that he could not file a police report against [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b6
b7C

The following day, [REDACTED] went to see Lake County Prosecutor STEVEN LATOURETTE and relayed the above story to him. According to [REDACTED] LATOURETTE replied, "Oh that's nothing, they're just playing head games." [REDACTED] then stated to LATOURETTE, "What comes around goes around and I'll do it." [REDACTED] advised LATOURETTE began laughing at this point and left the office.

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[REDACTED] then went to the FBI in Cleveland, Ohio and spoke to an unnamed special agent. This agent said, "He smells a rat in a wood pile." [REDACTED] also brought his complaints to Special Agent [REDACTED] of the Painesville Resident Agency of the FBI. [REDACTED] stated LATOURETTE should have taken the case.

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[REDACTED] was having trouble getting an attorney to handle his complaint in Lake County. [REDACTED] stated this was because the attorneys were scared of STEVE LATOURETTE. Eventually, [REDACTED] obtained an attorney in Cleveland named Mr.

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b7C

9A-CV-

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 10/09/98, Page 3 b6 b7C

[REDACTED] now retired. According to [REDACTED] LATOURETTE did not respond to [REDACTED] calls or letters. At this point, [REDACTED] revisited LATOURETTE. LATOURETTE stated, "Now and days, people forge documents and you can't find who's who." After hearing this, [REDACTED] left LATOURETTE's office and began to write letters to LATOURETTE.

[REDACTED] has had several different lawyers to date. They are as follows:

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b7C

[REDACTED]

Sometime after visiting LATOURETTE, [REDACTED] went to

[REDACTED]

b6
b7C

9A-CV-

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 10/09/98

, Page

4

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b7C

[REDACTED]

In 1996, [REDACTED] lodged complaints with the Chief of the Wickliffe Police Department, the mayor of Wickliffe, and other public officials in Wickliffe, Ohio. While lodging these complaints, [REDACTED] advised he spoke with a Wickliffe Police Officer that advised [REDACTED] there were direct orders from STEVE LATOURETTE not to investigate the [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] advised the officer then told him LATOURETTE had said, "I'm the boss and nobody tells me what to do."

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b7C

Approximately one month ago, [REDACTED] wrote two letters to Congressman LATOURETTE requesting assistance with the problem he was experiencing with [REDACTED]. After writing the above letters, [REDACTED] went to LATOURETTE's office to again request assistance from LATOURETTE. After getting what he considered to be "no help" from LATOURETTE, [REDACTED] wrote a letter to [REDACTED].

[REDACTED]

b6

b7C

By writing the above letter to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] did not mean to frighten [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b6

b7C

[REDACTED] was advised not to write any further letters to [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was further advised to not write any further letters to Congressman LATOURETTE. The writer advised [REDACTED] his dispute was of a civil nature and should be handled by a lawyer within the civil courts. [REDACTED] was also advised that further letters may result in harassment charges being filed against [REDACTED] by the Lake County Sheriff's Office.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 10/20/1998

To: Washington Field

From: Cleveland

Painesville RA

Contact: SA [REDACTED]

Approved By: [REDACTED]

Drafted By: [REDACTED]

: jag

Case ID #: ✓ 9A-CV-59110 (Closed)-5

Title: [REDACTED]

STEVEN C. LATOURETTE - VICTIM;
EXTORTION

Synopsis: To provide WFO with information concerning a potentially threatening [REDACTED]

Enclosures: For WFO, two copies of an FD-302 regarding the interview of [REDACTED] and a copy of the letter [REDACTED]

Details: On October 5, 1998, the writer received a letter from [REDACTED] for Steven C. LaTourette, United States Congressman. The letter had been sent via certified mail [REDACTED] from the above captioned subject. The letter alleges [REDACTED]

that Lake County Prosecutor Steven LaTourette "made sure of that." The subject states that all he wants is [REDACTED]

On October 5, 1998, the writer spoke with Congressman LaTourette and was advised that the above captioned subject, hereinafter referred to as [REDACTED] had been contacting LaTourette, and local and Federal authorities for approximately thirteen years. Congressman LaTourette was concerned that [REDACTED] knew his home address [REDACTED] Congressman LaTourette has met [REDACTED] several times throughout his career as a Lake County Prosecutor and currently as a United

✓
11/2/98
4 5 6
CLOSED

✓
293JAG02-EC

9AACV-59110-5

To: ?? From: Cleveland
Re: 9A-CV-59110, 10/20/1998

States Congressman. LaTourette advised [redacted] complaint first came to his attention when LaTourette was the Lake County Prosecutor. LaTourette advised he researched the complaint and found it to have no substance. LaTourette stated it appeared as though [redacted]

b6
b7C

[redacted] has visited LaTourette's Painesville Congressional Office several times but has not displayed any aggressive and/or violent behavior. LaTourette further stated [redacted] usually [redacted] making claims similar to the ones found within the above referenced letter. LaTourette stated he has contacted [redacted] lawyer, at [redacted] request but has yet to receive a return call from [redacted] as of October 5, 1998. LaTourette believes that [redacted] may be mentally unstable and may eventually pose a security problem.

Writer also contacted [redacted] Special Agent, United States Secret Service (USSS) in Cleveland, Ohio. [redacted] advised the writer that there was no record of [redacted] in the USSS data base. Writer also spoke to [redacted] Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO). [redacted] stated [redacted] is an unstable individual but believes [redacted] to be relatively harmless. [redacted] stated that if the letters continue, the LCSO may pursue harassment charges against [redacted]

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b7C

Writer then contacted [redacted] Madison Village Police Department, Madison, Ohio and requested an increased patrol in the area of LaTourette's residence through October 31, 1998. Writer also provided [redacted] with a description of [redacted] and a description of [redacted] vehicle.

b6
b7C

On October 7, 1998, the writer conferred with Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) Gary Arbezniak. AUSA Arbezniak informed the writer that the contents of the letter sent [redacted] did not rise to the level of a threat and lacked sufficient evidence per Title 18, Section 875 of the United States Code. Arbezniak requested the FBI investigate the alleged incident and [redacted]

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b7C

[redacted] Arbezniak further requested the FBI interview [redacted] and advise him he is to direct all correspondence directly to public officials and not to [redacted]

[redacted] is described as follows:

To: ?? From: Cleveland
Re: 9A-CV-59110, 10/20/1998

Name:
Race:
Sex:
Height:
Weight:
Eyes:
Hair:
Date of Birth:
Social Security
Account Number:
Place of Birth:
Address:

Miscellaneous:

[Redacted]

b6
b7C

On October 9, 1998, the writer interviewed [Redacted]

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[Redacted] two detectives at the Wickliffe Police Department in Wickliffe, Ohio approximately thirteen years earlier. [Redacted] further alleged Steven LaTourette did nothing to help him and issued direct orders to the Wickliffe Police Department that [Redacted] matter not be investigated. [Redacted] also spoke to the FBI and LCSO and claims the individuals he spoke to told him that LaTourette should have "taken the case", and that [Redacted] should not retain legal counsel or "he would get in trouble." [Redacted] wrote the above referenced letter [Redacted]

[Redacted]

After speaking to [Redacted], the writer interviewed [Redacted]

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b7C

Wickliffe Police Department approximately fourteen years earlier. After arriving at the police department, [Redacted] was told he could not file a complaint against [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted] was advised not to write any further letters to [Redacted] was further advised not to write additional letters to Congressman LaTourette because his dispute was of a civil nature and should be handled by a lawyer within

b6
b7C

To: ?? From: Cleveland
Re: 9A-CV-59110, 10/20/1998

the civil courts. [] was also advised that further letters may result in harassment charges being filed against [] by the LCSO. [] agreed to not send any further letters to [] and stated he did not mean to frighten [] [] by writing the above referenced letter.

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b7c

In light of the foregoing, this case is being closed.

To: ?? From: Cleveland
Re: 9A-CV-59110, 10/20/1998

LEAD (s):

Set Lead 1:

WMFO

AT WASHINGTON, DC

Provide to United States Capital Police if deemed appropriate.

♦♦

U.S. Department of Justice



Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

3005 Federal Office Bldg
Cleveland, OH 44199
October 23, 1998

Honorable Emily M. Sweeney
United States Attorney
Northern District of Ohio
1800 Bank One Center
600 Superior Avenue, East
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-2600

b6
b7C

Attention: Assistant United States Attorney
Gary Arbezniak

RE: [REDACTED]
EXTORTION

Dear Ms. Sweeney:

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This letter is to confirm the October 7, 1998 conversation between Special Agent (SA) [REDACTED], Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Cleveland, and Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) Gary Arbezniak regarding the above referenced investigation. This matter involves information received by this office on October 5, 1998 from [REDACTED], [REDACTED] for Steven C. LaTourette, United States Congressman in Painesville, Ohio. [REDACTED] had written and sent a letter via certified mail to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Police Officer and he was not permitted to file a police report, and Lake County Prosecutor Steven LaTourette "made sure of that."

[REDACTED] was identified as a white male, date of birth [REDACTED], social security account number [REDACTED], residing at [REDACTED] Ohio.

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FBI investigation disclosed that [REDACTED] did in fact write and send a letter [REDACTED]

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b7C

- 1 - Addressee
② - Cleveland (9A-CV-59110) 
JFF:jag
(3)



296JAE01. LET

9A-CV-59110-6

above referenced letter to [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] was advised not to write any further letters to Steven or [REDACTED] agreed to the above conditions and stated he did not mean to frighten the [REDACTED] by writing the above referenced letter.

As a result of the above information, AUSA Arbezniik advised that the contents of the letter sent to [REDACTED] did not rise to the level of a threat and lacked sufficient evidence per Title 18, Section 875 of the United States Code. In view of this, AUSA Arbezniik was declining prosecution in this matter.

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Very truly yours,

VAN A. HARP
Special Agent in Charge

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By:

[REDACTED]
Supervisory Senior
Resident Agent



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 197-0

3005 Federal Office Building
Cleveland, Ohio 44199
June 18, 2001

[redacted]
OFFICE OF STATE REP. RON YOUNG
Riffe Center
77 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

RE: [redacted]

Dear [redacted]

Pursuant to your written request, we have reviewed our records for information regarding [redacted] in the matter you referenced.

[redacted] was interviewed on October 9, 1998, concerning a letter he had sent to [redacted] Steven Latourette, Congressman, 19th District. [redacted] claimed that thirteen years previous to this he had been [redacted]

[redacted] who suggested he take up the matter with the new Prosecutor, Steven Latourette, when he took office. He later contacted Prosecutor Latourette, who took no action but did encourage him to make a police report.

[redacted] claimed that in 1986 [redacted] Department detectives questioned him [redacted] and refused to allow them to file a report against [redacted] also alleges other abuses such as [redacted]

[redacted] described this event to Prosecutor Latourette without results and then went to the FBI, where an Agent allegedly told [redacted] that Latourette should have taken the case. [redacted] obtained legal counsel and has had a series of lawyers over the years and Prosecutor Latourette did not

1 - Addressee

2 - Cleveland (197-0)

(1) - 9A-CV-59110 - 7

WSB/bb

(3)

[redacted] (WFO)

W87

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b7C

b6
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respond to their inquiries. After writing to the attorney for [redacted] without response, [redacted] was contacted by the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office and told that no charges would be filed, as they were unsubstantiated. In 1994, [redacted]

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In 1996, [redacted] lodged complaints with various public officials in Wickliffe, Ohio. In approximately September 1998, [redacted] wrote letters to now-Congressman Latourette without results. [redacted]

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[redacted] He advised he had no intention of frightening [redacted] and agreed not to write any further letters to the Congressman or [redacted]

On the same date of interview, [redacted] [redacted], was interviewed and advised that he recalled going to the Wickliffe Police Department [redacted]

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I hope this summary provides you with sufficient material for your investigation.

Sincerely,

Van A. Harp
Special Agent in Charge

By: [redacted]
Special Agent
Chief Division Counsel

b6
b7C



Ohio House of Representatives

Ronald Young
Member

69th House District
Parts of Lake County

Capitol Office

Riffe Center
77 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215-6111
toll free: (800) 282-0253
telephone: (614) 644-6074
fax: (614) 644-9494
e-mail: rep69@ohr.state.oh.us
www.house.state.oh.us

Committees

State Government, Chair
Criminal Justice
Commerce and Labor

[Redacted]

1240 E. 9th Street Rm. 3005
Cleveland, Oh 44199

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[Redacted]

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b7C

I recently had a conversation with agent [Redacted] regarding an old case he worked on several years ago, the antagonist of which was one [Redacted] of Lake County, Ohio.

During our conversation I requested the official documentation of Agent [Redacted] communications with [Redacted]. Agent [Redacted] was willing to send the information pending a check with the Agency's legal department. Agent [Redacted] then told me I needed to contact you in an official capacity to request any such records.

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It is for this purpose I am writing to you. In order to conduct and close my cursory investigation into this matter and quickly put it behind me, I need to access the records of communications, be they incident reports, etc. I feel confident that the contents of the paperwork will show that none of the allegations made by [Redacted] hold water and as such, will allow me to discard the case and move on to more important work.

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I understand that due to the time frame of when this encounter took place it may be difficult to produce the paperwork. I appreciate your efforts in finding it for me and assure you I will be patient in my request so as not to place an undo burden on your agency employees. Agent [Redacted] has been more than helpful and I apologize for having to occupy his and your time with this trivial matter.

Thank you for your cooperation,

[Redacted]

Office of State Rep. Ron Young

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b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1357130-0

Total Deleted Page(s) = 29

Page 6 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 7 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 8 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 9 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 10 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 11 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 12 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 21 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 22 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 23 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 24 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 25 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 26 ~ Duplicate;
Page 27 ~ Duplicate;
Page 28 ~ Duplicate;
Page 29 ~ Duplicate;
Page 30 ~ Duplicate;
Page 31 ~ Duplicate;
Page 32 ~ Duplicate;
Page 34 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 35 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 41 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 42 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 44 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 64 ~ Duplicate;
Page 65 ~ Duplicate;
Page 66 ~ Duplicate;
Page 67 ~ Duplicate;
Page 68 ~ Duplicate;

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 10/09/1998

To: Cleveland

Attn: SSRA [REDACTED]

From: Cleveland

Painesville RA

Contact: SA [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

Approved By: [REDACTED]

Drafted By: [REDACTED] jag

Case ID #: 9A-CV-NEW (Pending)

Title: [REDACTED]

STEVEN C. LATOURETTE - VICTIM;
EXTORTION

b6
b7C

Synopsis: To recommend opening of the above captioned case.

Details: Attached hereto and made part of this communication is one copy of a seven page letter addressed to [REDACTED] from [REDACTED].

On October 5, 1998, the writer received the above letter from [REDACTED] for Steven C. LaTourette, United States Congressman. The above letter was sent via certified mail to [REDACTED] from the above captioned subject. The letter alleges

b6
b7C

[REDACTED]
Lake County Prosecutor Steven LaTourette "made sure of that." The subject states that all he wants is [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

On October 5, 1998, writer spoke with Congressman LaTourette and was advised that the above captioned subject, hereinafter referred to as [REDACTED] had been contacting LaTourette, and local and Federal authorities for approximately thirteen years. Congressman LaTourette was concerned that [REDACTED] knew his home address [REDACTED] Congressman LaTourette has met [REDACTED] several times throughout his career as the Lake County Prosecutor and currently as a United States Congressman. LaTourette advised [REDACTED] complaint first came to his attention when LaTourette was the

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CPI-NONE

OXA
9A

9A-CV-59110-1

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 13 1998	
FBI - CLEVELAND	

282 JAGOL EC

To: Cleveland From: Cleveland
Re: 9A-CV-NEW, 10/09/1998

Lake County Prosecutor. LaTourette advised he researched the complaint and found it to have no substance. LaTourette stated it appeared as though [REDACTED]

b6
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[REDACTED] has visited LaTourette's Painesville Congressional office several times but has never displayed any aggressive and/or violent behavior. LaTourette further stated [REDACTED] usually [REDACTED] making claims similar to the ones found in the enclosed letter. LaTourette stated he has contacted [REDACTED] lawyer, and has not received a return call from [REDACTED] as of October 5, 1998. LaTourette believes that [REDACTED] may be mentally unstable and may pose a security problem in the future.

Writer also contacted [REDACTED] Special Agent, United States Secret Service (USSS) in Cleveland, Ohio. [REDACTED] advised the writer that there was no record of [REDACTED] in the USSS data base. Writer also spoke to [REDACTED] Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO). [REDACTED] stated [REDACTED] is an unstable individual, but believes [REDACTED] to be relatively harmless. [REDACTED] stated if the letters continue, the LCSO may pursue harassment charges against [REDACTED]

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Writer then contacted [REDACTED] Madison Village Police Department, Madison, Ohio, and requested an increased patrol in the area of LaTourette's residence thru October 31, 1998. Writer also provided [REDACTED] with a description of [REDACTED] and a description of [REDACTED] vehicle.

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On October 7, 1998, the writer conferred with Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] is described as follows:

Name:
Race:
Sex:
Height:

--

To: Cleveland From: Cleveland
Re: 9A-CV-NEW, 10/09/1998

Weight:
Eyes:
Hair:
Date of Birth:
Social Security
Account Number:
Place of Birth:
Address:

Miscellaneous:



b6
b7C

In light of the foregoing, and the additional
investigative request, it is recommended this case be opened and
assigned to SA 

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♦♦



FBI FACSIMILE COVERSHEET

PRECEDENCE

- ☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☒ Routine

CLASSIFICATION

- ☐ Top Secret
☐ Secret
☐ Confidential
☐ Sensitive
☒ Unclassified

Time Transmitted: _____

Sender's Initials: lfNumber of Pages: 4

(including coversheet)

To: CLEVELAND
Name of Office

Date: 10/19/98

Facsimile Number: _____

Attn: _____

Name

Room

Telephone

From: AKRON
Name of Office

Subject: _____

Special Handling Instructions: PLS CALL ME W/ FILE #

Originator's Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Originator's Facsimile Number: _____

Approved: _____

Brief Description of Communication Faxed: 9A-NEW ECb6
b7Cb6
b7C

(01/26/1998)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 10/09/1998

To: Cleveland

Attn: SSRA [REDACTED]

From: Cleveland

Painesville RA

Contact: SA [REDACTED]

Approved By: [REDACTED]

Drafted By: [REDACTED] F:jag

Case ID #: 9A-CV-NEW (Pending)

Title: [REDACTED]

STEVEN C. LATOURETTE - VICTIM;
EXTORTION

Synopsis: To recommend opening of the above captioned case.

Details: Attached hereto and made part of this communication is one copy of a seven page letter addressed to [REDACTED] from [REDACTED].

On October 5, 1998, the writer received the above letter from [REDACTED] for Steven C. LaTourette, United States Congressman. The above letter was sent via certified mail to [REDACTED] from the above captioned subject. The letter alleges

[REDACTED]
Lake County Prosecutor Steven LaTourette "made sure of that." The subject states that all he wants is [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

On October 5, 1998, writer spoke with Congressman LaTourette and was advised that the above captioned subject, hereinafter referred to as [REDACTED] had been contacting LaTourette, and local and Federal authorities for approximately thirteen years. Congressman LaTourette was concerned that [REDACTED] knew his home address [REDACTED] Congressman LaTourette has met [REDACTED] several times throughout his career as the Lake County Prosecutor and currently as a United States Congressman. LaTourette advised [REDACTED] complaint first came to his attention when LaTourette was the

SSRA [REDACTED]

OAK 10/9/98
9A

9A-CV-59110-1

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 19 1998	
FBI - CLEVELAND	

To: Cleveland From: Cleveland
Re: 9A-CV-NEW, 10/09/1998

Lake County Prosecutor. LaTourette advised he researched the complaint and found it to have no substance. LaTourette stated it appeared as though [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

[REDACTED] has visited LaTourette's Painesville Congressional office several times but has never displayed any aggressive and/or violent behavior. LaTourette further stated [REDACTED] usually [REDACTED] making claims similar to the ones found in the enclosed letter. LaTourette stated he has contacted [REDACTED] lawyer, and has not received a return call from [REDACTED] as of October 5, 1998. LaTourette believes that [REDACTED] may be mentally unstable and may pose a security problem in the future.

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Writer also contacted [REDACTED] Special Agent, United States Secret Service (USSS) in Cleveland, Ohio. [REDACTED] advised the writer that there was no record of [REDACTED] in the USSS data base. Writer also spoke to [REDACTED] Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO). [REDACTED] stated [REDACTED] is an unstable individual, but believes [REDACTED] to be relatively harmless. [REDACTED] stated if the letters continue, the LCSO may pursue harassment charges against [REDACTED]

Writer then contacted [REDACTED] Madison Village Police Department, Madison, Ohio, and requested an increased patrol in the area of LaTourette's residence thru October 31, 1998. Writer also provided [REDACTED] with a description of [REDACTED] and a description of [REDACTED] vehicle.

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On October 7, 1998, the writer conferred with Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) Gary Arbezniak. Arbezniak informed the writer that the contents of the enclosed letter do not rise to the level of a threat and lack sufficient evidence per Title 18, Section 875 of the United States Code. Arbezniak requested the FBI investigate the alleged incident in [REDACTED] letter where [REDACTED] Arbezniak further requested the FBI interview [REDACTED] and advised him he is to direct all correspondence directly to public officials and not [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] is described as follows:

Name:
Race:
Sex:
Height:

--

OCT-19-1998 10:52 FROM FBI AKRON OH RA
OCT-16-1998 14:47 FBI PRINESVILLE OHIO RA

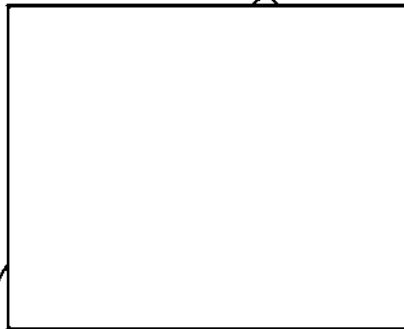
TO

CLEVELAND P.04

To: Cleveland From: Cleveland
Re: 9A-CV-NEW, 10/09/1998

Weight:
Eyes:
Hair:
Date of Birth:
Social Security
Account Number:
Place of Birth:
Address:

Miscellaneous:



b6
b7C

In light of the foregoing, and the additional
investigative request, it is recommended this case be opened and
assigned to SA [redacted]

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♦♦

Case ID: 9A-CV-59110

1A ①

Universal Case File Number 9A-CV-59110Field Office Acquiring Evidence Cleveland

Serial # of Originating Document _____

Date Received 10-5-98

From _____

(Name of Contributor)

for Congressman LaTourrette1 VICTORIA PLACE, RM. 320

(Address of Contributor)

Painesville, Ohio

(City and State)

b6

b7C

By SA _____

(Name of Special Agent)

To Be Returned ☐ Yes ☒ NoReceipt Given ☐ Yes ☒ No

Grand Jury Material - Disseminate Only Pursuant to Rule 6 (e)

Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure

☐ Yes ☒ No

Title: _____

Reference: _____

(Communication Enclosing Material)

Description: ☐ Original notes re interview ofLetter sent tofrom

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& Certified mail envelope.

b6

b7C

EP-14F January 1998

© USPS 1995



U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PRINESVILLE, OH
44077
OCT 01 '98
AMOUNT

\$2.45
00024352-12

0000



0000

AMOUNT

\$3.00

U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PRINESVILLE, OH
44077
OCT 01 '98
00024352-12
44057



**PRIORITY
MAIL**

Fold at line over top of envelope to
the right of the return address

CERTIFIED

Z 538 356 510

MAIL

or on label (if provided)



Indicated in upper right hand corner.



3. ATTACH LABEL (if provided)
Remove label backing and adhere
over customer address block area
(white area).

www.usps.gov

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The efficient FLAT RATE ENVELOPE.

You don't have to weigh the envelope... Just pack all your correspondence and documents inside and pay only
the 2 lb. Priority Mail postage rate.

We Deliver.

1A(2)

FD-340 (Rev. 8-18-89)

Universal File Case Number 9A-CV-59110

Field Office Acquiring Evidence Cleveland

Serial # of Originating Document _____

Date Received 10-9-98

From _____
(Name of Contributor)

(Address of Contributor)

(City and State)

By SA _____
(Name of Special Agent)

b6
b7C

To Be Returned ☐ Yes ☒ No

Receipt Given ☐ Yes ☒ No

Grand Jury Material - Disseminate Only Pursuant to Rule 6 (e)

Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure

☐ Yes ☒ No

Title:

Reference: _____
(Communication Enclosing Material)

Description: ☒ Original notes re interview of

b6
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[Redacted]

10-9-98

b6
b7C

→ [Redacted] 1st. & flowed over to Lat.
Lat did nothing -

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1st.

[Redacted]

b6
b7C

an FL. Now.

2nd.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

3rd.
4th.

[Redacted]

WICKLIFFE P.D.

[Complaint] 1986

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

Said cannot file P.D. report against

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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b7C

Misc. questions.

→ Next day told LaTourrette:

"Oh that's nothing, just playing
headgames."

□ "What comes around goes around, & I'll
do it."

LaT. laughed @ him.

→ Went to Chev. FBI.

Unk. Agent said, he smells a rat
in a woodpile.

-3-

→ Couldn't get atty to handle her case in Lake County. Scared.

Got one in Clev,

[redacted]

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Lat did not respond to [redacted] calls & ltrs.

→ [redacted] revisited Lat. & wrote ltrs.

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b7C

"Now & days people forge documents & you can't find who's who."

→ [redacted] said Lat. should have taken case

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[redacted]

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-let-

- Called [redacted]
Then Non-Loop.

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- Everyone @ [redacted] involved w/ this

[redacted]

~~Handwritten scribble~~

→

[redacted]

Atty. Gen.

[redacted]

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b7C

[redacted]

Tried to make appt. to sit down w/ [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

Uncoop.

[redacted]

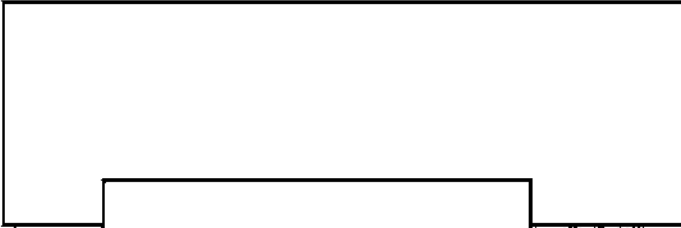
[redacted]

Called in by Cal. Cnty. Prosecutor for
harassment [redacted] → can't remember name.
No charges, pros. said.
This should never have happened.

[redacted]

Handwritten signature

-S-



CCSD.

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b7C

did you wrong, but
do not get another atty. you'll
get in trouble.

→ '1996

Complained to Chief of WPD, Mayor, etc.

→ [redacted] was either let go or resigned

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→ A p.o. said there were orders from
Lat to not investigate.

"I'm the boss nobody tells me
what to do."

→ Wrote 2 ltrs. to Steve Lat approx.
1 month ago.

- 1 -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 10/15/98

[redacted]
Ohio, date of birth [redacted] social security account number [redacted]
[redacted] was advised of the identity of the interviewing agent and the purpose of the interview. He then provided the following information:

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[redacted] was being interviewed regarding a letter sent to [redacted] STEVEN LATOURETTE, United States Congressman, 19th Congressional District, Ohio. [redacted] was interviewed in the presence of [redacted]
[redacted] Lake County Sheriff's Office, Painesville, Ohio.

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Approximately thirteen years ago, [redacted]

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[redacted] first approached Lake County Prosecutor JOHN SHOOP with the above problem. [redacted] explained SHOOP only had six months remaining as the Lake County Prosecutor and [redacted] advised [redacted] to take up this matter with STEVEN LATOURETTE who had just been elected as the new Lake County Prosecutor. [redacted] stated LATOURETTE did nothing and when [redacted] advised he wanted to file a police report, LATOURETTE encouraged him to do so.

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Investigation on 10/09/98 at [redacted] Ohio

File # 9A-CV-59110 Date dictated 10/13/98

by SA [redacted] jag 

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9A-CV-59110-4

9A-CV-

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 10/09/98 , Page 2

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[REDACTED]

Wickliffe Police Department and was advised by [REDACTED] that he could not file a police report against [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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The following day, [REDACTED] went to see Lake County Prosecutor STEVEN LATOURETTE and relayed the above story to him. According to [REDACTED] LATOURETTE replied, "Oh that's nothing, they're just playing head games." [REDACTED] then stated to LATOURETTE, "What comes around goes around and I'll do it." [REDACTED] advised LATOURETTE began laughing at this point and left the office.

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[REDACTED] then went to the FBI in Cleveland, Ohio and spoke to an unnamed special agent. This agent said, "He smells a rat in a wood pile." [REDACTED] also brought his complaints to Special Agent [REDACTED] of the Painesville Resident Agency of the FBI. [REDACTED] stated LATOURETTE should have taken the case.

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[REDACTED] was having trouble getting an attorney to handle his complaint in Lake County. [REDACTED] stated this was because the attorneys were scared of STEVE LATOURETTE. Eventually, [REDACTED] obtained an attorney in Cleveland named Mr.

b6
b7C

9A-CV-

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 10/09/98, Page 3 b6 b7C

[REDACTED] now retired. According to [REDACTED] LATOURETTE did not respond to [REDACTED] calls or letters. At this point, [REDACTED] revisited LATOURETTE. LATOURETTE stated, "Now and days, people forge documents and you can't find who's who." After hearing this, [REDACTED] left LATOURETTE's office and began to write letters to LATOURETTE.

[REDACTED] has had several different lawyers to date. They are as follows:

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[REDACTED]

Sometime after visiting LATOURETTE, [REDACTED] went to

[REDACTED]

b6
b7C

9A-CV-

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 10/09/98 , Page 4

b6
b7C

[REDACTED]

In 1996, [REDACTED] lodged complaints with the Chief of the Wickliffe Police Department, the mayor of Wickliffe, and other public officials in Wickliffe, Ohio. While lodging these complaints, [REDACTED] advised he spoke with a Wickliffe Police Officer that advised [REDACTED] there were direct orders from STEVE LATOURETTE not to investigate the [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] advised the officer then told him LATOURETTE had said, "I'm the boss and nobody tells me what to do."

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Approximately one month ago, [REDACTED] wrote two letters to Congressman LATOURETTE requesting assistance with the problem he was experiencing with [REDACTED]. After writing the above letters, [REDACTED] went to LATOURETTE's office to again request assistance from LATOURETTE. After getting what he considered to be "no help" from LATOURETTE, [REDACTED] wrote a letter to [REDACTED].

[REDACTED]

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By writing the above letter to [REDACTED], [REDACTED] did not mean to frighten [REDACTED].

[REDACTED]

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b7C

[REDACTED] was advised not to write any further letters to [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was further advised to not write any further letters to Congressman LATOURETTE. The writer advised [REDACTED] his dispute was of a civil nature and should be handled by a lawyer within the civil courts. [REDACTED] was also advised that further letters may result in harassment charges being filed against [REDACTED] by the Lake County Sheriff's Office.

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b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 10/20/1998

To: Washington Field

From: Cleveland

Painesville RA

Contact: SA [REDACTED]

Approved By: [REDACTED]

Drafted By: [REDACTED]

: jag

Case ID #: ✓ 9A-CV-59110 (Closed)-5

Title: [REDACTED]

STEVEN C. LATOURETTE - VICTIM;
EXTORTION

Synopsis: To provide WFO with information concerning a potentially threatening [REDACTED]

Enclosures: For WFO, two copies of an FD-302 regarding the interview of [REDACTED] and a copy of the letter [REDACTED]

Details: On October 5, 1998, the writer received a letter from [REDACTED] for Steven C. LaTourette, United States Congressman. The letter had been sent via certified mail [REDACTED] from the above captioned subject. The letter alleges [REDACTED]

that Lake County Prosecutor Steven LaTourette "made sure of that." The subject states that all he wants is [REDACTED]

On October 5, 1998, the writer spoke with Congressman LaTourette and was advised that the above captioned subject, hereinafter referred to as [REDACTED] had been contacting LaTourette, and local and Federal authorities for approximately thirteen years. Congressman LaTourette was concerned that [REDACTED] knew his home address [REDACTED] Congressman LaTourette has met [REDACTED] several times throughout his career as a Lake County Prosecutor and currently as a United

CLOSED

11/2/98

4

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293JAG02-EC

9AACV-59110-5

To: ?? From: Cleveland
Re: 9A-CV-59110, 10/20/1998

States Congressman. LaTourette advised [redacted] complaint first came to his attention when LaTourette was the Lake County Prosecutor. LaTourette advised he researched the complaint and found it to have no substance. LaTourette stated it appeared as though [redacted]

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[redacted] has visited LaTourette's Painesville Congressional Office several times but has not displayed any aggressive and/or violent behavior. LaTourette further stated [redacted] usually [redacted] making claims similar to the ones found within the above referenced letter. LaTourette stated he has contacted [redacted] lawyer, at [redacted] request but has yet to receive a return call from [redacted] as of October 5, 1998. LaTourette believes that [redacted] may be mentally unstable and may eventually pose a security problem.

Writer also contacted [redacted] Special Agent, United States Secret Service (USSS) in Cleveland, Ohio. [redacted] advised the writer that there was no record of [redacted] in the USSS data base. Writer also spoke to [redacted] Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO). [redacted] stated [redacted] is an unstable individual but believes [redacted] to be relatively harmless. [redacted] stated that if the letters continue, the LCSO may pursue harassment charges against [redacted]

b6
b7C

Writer then contacted [redacted] Madison Village Police Department, Madison, Ohio and requested an increased patrol in the area of LaTourette's residence through October 31, 1998. Writer also provided [redacted] with a description of [redacted] and a description of [redacted] vehicle.

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b7C

On October 7, 1998, the writer conferred with Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) Gary Arbezniak. AUSA Arbezniak informed the writer that the contents of the letter sent [redacted] did not rise to the level of a threat and lacked sufficient evidence per Title 18, Section 875 of the United States Code. Arbezniak requested the FBI investigate the alleged incident and [redacted]

b6
b7C

[redacted] Arbezniak further requested the FBI interview [redacted] and advise him he is to direct all correspondence directly to public officials and not to [redacted]

[redacted] is described as follows:

To: ?? From: Cleveland
Re: 9A-CV-59110, 10/20/1998

Name:
Race:
Sex:
Height:
Weight:
Eyes:
Hair:
Date of Birth:
Social Security
Account Number:
Place of Birth:
Address:

Miscellaneous:

[Redacted]

b6
b7C

On October 9, 1998, the writer interviewed [Redacted]

b6
b7C

[Redacted] two detectives at the Wickliffe Police Department in Wickliffe, Ohio approximately thirteen years earlier. [Redacted] further alleged Steven LaTourette did nothing to help him and issued direct orders to the Wickliffe Police Department that [Redacted] matter not be investigated. [Redacted] also spoke to the FBI and LCSO and claims the individuals he spoke to told him that LaTourette should have "taken the case", and that [Redacted] should not retain legal counsel or "he would get in trouble." [Redacted] wrote the above referenced letter [Redacted]

[Redacted]

After speaking to [Redacted], the writer interviewed [Redacted]

b6
b7C

Wickliffe Police Department approximately fourteen years earlier. After arriving at the police department, [Redacted] was told he could not file a complaint against [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted] was advised not to write any further letters to [Redacted] was further advised not to write additional letters to Congressman LaTourette because his dispute was of a civil nature and should be handled by a lawyer within

b6
b7C

To: ?? From: Cleveland
Re: 9A-CV-59110, 10/20/1998

the civil courts. [] was also advised that further letters may result in harassment charges being filed against [] by the LCSO. [] agreed to not send any further letters to [] and stated he did not mean to frighten [] [] by writing the above referenced letter.

b6
b7c

In light of the foregoing, this case is being closed.

To: ?? From: Cleveland
Re: 9A-CV-59110, 10/20/1998

LEAD (s):

Set Lead 1:

WMFO

AT WASHINGTON, DC

Provide to United States Capital Police if deemed appropriate.

♦♦

U.S. Department of Justice



Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

3005 Federal Office Bldg
Cleveland, OH 44199
October 23, 1998

Honorable Emily M. Sweeney
United States Attorney
Northern District of Ohio
1800 Bank One Center
600 Superior Avenue, East
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-2600

b6
b7C

Attention: Assistant United States Attorney
Gary Arbezniak

RE: [REDACTED]
EXTORTION

Dear Ms. Sweeney:

b6
b7C

This letter is to confirm the October 7, 1998 conversation between Special Agent (SA) [REDACTED], Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Cleveland, and Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) Gary Arbezniak regarding the above referenced investigation. This matter involves information received by this office on October 5, 1998 from [REDACTED], [REDACTED] for Steven C. LaTourette, United States Congressman in Painesville, Ohio. [REDACTED] had written and sent a letter via certified mail to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Police Officer and he was not permitted to file a police report, and Lake County Prosecutor Steven LaTourette "made sure of that."

[REDACTED] was identified as a white male, date of birth [REDACTED], social security account number [REDACTED], residing at [REDACTED] Ohio.

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b7C

FBI investigation disclosed that [REDACTED] did in fact write and send a letter [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

- 1 - Addressee
② - Cleveland (9A-CV-59110) 
JFF:jag
(3)



296JAE01. LET

9A-W-59110-6

above referenced letter to [redacted]

b6
b7C

[redacted] was advised not to write any further letters to Steven or [redacted] agreed to the above conditions and stated he did not mean to frighten the [redacted] by writing the above referenced letter.

As a result of the above information, AUSA Arbezniik advised that the contents of the letter sent to [redacted] did not rise to the level of a threat and lacked sufficient evidence per Title 18, Section 875 of the United States Code. In view of this, AUSA Arbezniik was declining prosecution in this matter.

b6
b7C

Very truly yours,

VAN A. HARP
Special Agent in Charge

b6
b7C

By:

[redacted]
Supervisory Senior
Resident Agent



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 197-0

3005 Federal Office Building
Cleveland, Ohio 44199
June 18, 2001

[redacted]
OFFICE OF STATE REP. RON YOUNG
Riffe Center
77 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

RE: [redacted]

Dear [redacted]

Pursuant to your written request, we have reviewed our records for information regarding [redacted] in the matter you referenced.

[redacted] was interviewed on October 9, 1998, concerning a letter he had sent to [redacted] Steven Latourette, Congressman, 19th District. [redacted] claimed that thirteen years previous to this he had been [redacted]

[redacted] who suggested he take up the matter with the new Prosecutor, Steven Latourette, when he took office. He later contacted Prosecutor Latourette, who took no action but did encourage him to make a police report.

[redacted] claimed that in 1986 [redacted] Department detectives questioned him [redacted]

[redacted] and refused to allow them to file a report against [redacted] also alleges other abuses such as [redacted]

[redacted] described this event to Prosecutor Latourette without results and then went to the FBI, where an Agent allegedly told [redacted] that Latourette should have taken the case. [redacted] obtained legal counsel and has had a series of lawyers over the years and Prosecutor Latourette did not

1 - Addressee

2 - Cleveland (197-0)

(1) - 9A-CV-59110 - 7

WSB/bb

(3)

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b7C

b6
b7C

b6
b7C

b6
b7C

[redacted] (WFO)

W8

respond to their inquiries. After writing to the attorney for [redacted] without response, [redacted] was contacted by the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office and told that no charges would be filed, as they were unsubstantiated. In 1994, [redacted]

b6
b7C

In 1996, [redacted] lodged complaints with various public officials in Wickliffe, Ohio. In approximately September 1998, [redacted] wrote letters to now-Congressman Latourette without results. [redacted]

b6
b7C

[redacted] He advised he had no intention of frightening [redacted] and agreed not to write any further letters to the Congressman or [redacted]

On the same date of interview, [redacted] [redacted], was interviewed and advised that he recalled going to the Wickliffe Police Department [redacted]

b6
b7C

I hope this summary provides you with sufficient material for your investigation.

Sincerely,

Van A. Harp
Special Agent in Charge

By: [redacted]
Special Agent
Chief Division Counsel

b6
b7C



Ohio House of Representatives

Ronald Young
Member

69th House District
Parts of Lake County

Capitol Office

Riffe Center
77 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215-6111
toll free: (800) 282-0253
telephone: (614) 644-6074
fax: (614) 644-9494
e-mail: rep69@ohr.state.oh.us
www.house.state.oh.us

Committees

State Government, Chair
Criminal Justice
Commerce and Labor

[redacted]

1240 E. 9th Street Rm. 3005
Cleveland, Oh 44199

b6
b7C

[redacted]

b6
b7C

I recently had a conversation with agent [redacted] regarding an old case he worked on several years ago, the antagonist of which was one [redacted] of Lake County, Ohio.

During our conversation I requested the official documentation of Agent [redacted] communications with [redacted]. Agent [redacted] was willing to send the information pending a check with the Agency's legal department. Agent [redacted] then told me I needed to contact you in an official capacity to request any such records.

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b7C

It is for this purpose I am writing to you. In order to conduct and close my cursory investigation into this matter and quickly put it behind me, I need to access the records of communications, be they incident reports, etc. I feel confident that the contents of the paperwork will show that none of the allegations made by [redacted] hold water and as such, will allow me to discard the case and move on to more important work.

b6
b7C

I understand that due to the time frame of when this encounter took place it may be difficult to produce the paperwork. I appreciate your efforts in finding it for me and assure you I will be patient in my request so as not to place an undo burden on your agency employees. Agent [redacted] has been more than helpful and I apologize for having to occupy his and your time with this trivial matter.

Thank you for your cooperation,

[redacted]

Office of State Rep. Ron Young

b6
b7C

- 1 -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 11/01/2007

[redacted] a white male, date of birth [redacted]
[redacted] Social Security Account Number [redacted]
home address [redacted] home
telephone number [redacted] and cellular telephone [redacted]
[redacted] provided the following information voluntarily to Special
Agent [redacted] of the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

[redacted] recently came across and old e-mail dated
01/03/2003 to himself. The e-mail contained two telephone
numbers and two names. Telephone numbers [redacted] and
[redacted] and the names [redacted] and "Latourette" were
referenced on the e-mail. [redacted]
[redacted] were associated with [redacted] and "Latourette" and
telephone number [redacted] were associated with Congressman
Steven La Tourette of Ohio.

[redacted] advised that he frequently e-mailed himself names
and telephone numbers to remind him to call someone or to store
an individual's contact information in his blackberry.

[redacted] recalled having [redacted] telephone number on a
piece of paper in his pocket and generating this e-mail to
remind him to call [redacted] [redacted] is certain
[redacted] provided him with [redacted] telephone number to
contact [redacted] which [redacted] wrote on a piece of paper. [redacted]
recalled contacting [redacted] to make the necessary
arrangements with [redacted] to provide [redacted]
[redacted] however, [redacted] could not recall any of the
details.

[redacted] could not recall why he entered La Tourette's
contact information into his blackberry. [redacted] was certain La
Tourette did not have any involvement with [redacted]
[redacted] and former
[redacted] attended together.

A copy of the e-mail has been attached to this
communication and made a part hereto.

Investigation on 11/01/2007 at Washington, District of Columbia

File # 58C-WF-235019-94 Date dictated N/A

by SA [redacted] rem Rm

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 03, 2003 3:01 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Handheld (www.BlackBerry.net)

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Sent: Fri Jan 03 13:53:06 2003
Subject: [REDACTED]

Latourette

Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Handheld (www.BlackBerry.net)

- 1 -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 11/01/2007

[redacted] a white male, date of birth [redacted]
[redacted] Social Security Account Number [redacted]
home address [redacted] home
telephone number [redacted] and cellular telephone [redacted]
[redacted] provided the following information voluntarily to Special
Agent [redacted] of the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

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[redacted] and the names [redacted] and "Latourette" were
referenced on the e-mail. [redacted]
[redacted] were associated with [redacted] and "Latourette" and
telephone number [redacted] were associated with Congressman
Steven La Tourette of Ohio.

[redacted] advised that he frequently e-mailed himself names
and telephone numbers to remind him to call someone or to store
an individual's contact information in his blackberry.

[redacted] recalled having [redacted] telephone number on a
piece of paper in his pocket and generating this e-mail to
remind him to call [redacted] [redacted] is certain
[redacted] provided him with [redacted] telephone number to
contact [redacted] which [redacted] wrote on a piece of paper. [redacted]
recalled contacting [redacted] to make the necessary
arrangements with [redacted] to provide [redacted]
[redacted] however, [redacted] could not recall any of the
details.

[redacted] could not recall why he entered La Tourette's
contact information into his blackberry. [redacted] was certain La
Tourette did not have any involvement with [redacted]
[redacted] and former
[redacted] attended together.

A copy of the e-mail has been attached to this
communication and made a part hereto.

Investigation on 11/01/2007 at Washington, District of Columbia

File # 58C-WF-235019-94 Date dictated N/A

by SA [redacted] rem Rm

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 03, 2003 3:01 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Handheld (www.BlackBerry.net)

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Sent: Fri Jan 03 13:53:06 2003
Subject: [REDACTED]

Latourette

Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Handheld (www.BlackBerry.net)

RE:

[REDACTED]
STEVEN C. LATOURETTE;
PUBLIC CORRUPTION;
OO: CV
194-CV-413 SUB 9

b6
b7C
b7D

On May 5, 1993, 6/8/93, and 6/29/93, [REDACTED] provided
the following information to Special Agent (SA) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7D

[REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7D

(2) - 194-413 SUB 9
(3)

194B-413-SUB 9-9

7

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 13 1993	
FBI - CLEVELAND	

SSA [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

RE:

[REDACTED]
STEVEN C. LATOURETTE;
PUBLIC CORRUPTION;
OO: CV
194-CV-413 SUB 9

b6
b7C
b7D

On May 5, 1993, 6/8/93, and 6/29/93, [REDACTED] provided
the following information to Special Agent (SA) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7D

[REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7D

(2) - 194-413 SUB 9
(3)

194B-413-SUB 9-9

7

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 13 1993	
FBI - CLEVELAND	

SSA [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

RE:

[REDACTED]
STEVEN C. LATOURETTE;
PUBLIC CORRUPTION MATTERS;
OO: CV
CV 194-0

194D-413 Sub 9

On January 20, 1993, and January 25, 1993, [REDACTED]
was contacted by Special Agent (SA) [REDACTED] and provided
the following information: *w/m*

[REDACTED]

SOURCE is aware that [REDACTED] has an associate by the
name of [REDACTED]

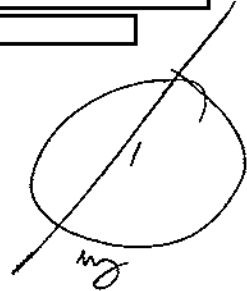
[REDACTED]

SOURCE is aware that [REDACTED]
is also associated with a [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(1) - 194-0
(2)

w/m



194D-413 Sub 9-4

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FEB 04 1993	
CLEVELAND	

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SOURCE was aware that

b6
b7C
b7D

Judicial race unites former political foes

By Phil Trexler
News-Herald Staff Writer

The last time Steven ~~C~~ LaTourette and Michael A. Cicconetti shared the same platform, LaTourette called his then-political opponent a "DWI attorney" who "wouldn't recognize a plea bargain if it were to come up and slap him in the face."

But time and a new election apparently have ways of changing things. Nowadays, the two share a platform with a common goal: seeing Painesville Municipal Court Judge Neil R. Wilson become a one-term justice.

"I think it shows that when you run a good, clean campaign and the other person wins, it doesn't mean you can't work together," Cicconetti said Tuesday.

"I hope it's a compliment to have such a person involved in my campaign. But he's not the only one. Others have come out and gotten involved. If people want a choice for judge, this is probably the last opportunity they'll have for the next six years."

Because no Republican has surfaced in the judicial race, the Cicconetti-Wilson winner will likely go unopposed in November and win the bench.

LaTourette, a Republican who whipped Cicconetti five years ago in the 1988 race for Lake County prosecutor, is pictured shaking hands with Cicconetti inside the Democratic lawyer's recently released campaign literature.

In the pamphlet, LaTourette does not come out and endorse Cicconetti. In fact, all voters get is the photo with a nearby caption reading, "We need a system that works together." LaTourette is not quoted in any of the pamphlet's four pages.



LaTourette



Cicconetti

"First of all," LaTourette said of his support, "we were unable to field a Republican candidate in the Painesville Municipal Court race, so like President Bush once said, we didn't have a dog in the fight. This caused me to examine who was running in the primary and most importantly, who is most likely to cooperate with others in order to help the public. All this wasteful bickering causes gridlock."

He added, "In 1988, we both ran a hard campaign and I was

fortunate to come out ahead. But it doesn't mean I don't respect him as a man or an attorney and our past race doesn't mean I question whether he'll be a good judge. I think he'll make a fine judge."

As a Republican, LaTourette is not alone in jumping party lines in support of Cicconetti. Also spotted sharing the camera lens in a group photo with Cicconetti are Andy Totin, Lake County clerk of courts; Wendall Walker, Painesville City Council's president; John F. Clair, a Painesville councilman; and Phil Haskell, a Perry Township trustee. All are Republicans.

Wilson said he is neither surprised nor impressed with the party crossovers.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

NEWS HERALD

Date: 4/17/93
Edition:

Title: Public Corruption
Painesville

Character:
or

Classification:

Submitting Office: 194-4135649

Indexing:

"It's been apparent for some time now that there's a small group of individuals trying to manipulate the campaign for their own purposes," Wilson said.

"I think it's strictly politics, but strange politics. I think, frankly, the voters are smarter than my opponent gives them credit for. (Having LaTourette) is no benefit to him. I don't know if it will backfire. I just know the voters are smart enough to see through this."

LaTourette said he has not been criticized by other GOP leaders for supporting a Democrat. He likens the Republican support for Cicconetti to the same stream of bi-partisan support that coalesced to put Republican Lake County Sheriff Daniel A. Dunlap into the office held by Republican incumbent Sheriff Patrick Walsh.

"The days voting straight party lines are over," LaTourette said. "If you look at the past several elections, voters are looking for the best candidate, regardless of party affiliation."

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 3 1993	
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SSRA	

b6
b7C

194-413-Sub 9-6

MAY PRIMARY

Lawyer edges Judge Wilson

5/5/93

Cicconetti prevails in Painesville race

By **STEPHEN KOFF**

PLAIN DEALER REPORTER

PAINESVILLE

Lawyer Michael A. Cicconetti appears destined to get the title of Painesville Municipal Court judge, edging out controversial incumbent Judge Neil R. Wilson in yesterday's Democratic primary by 193 votes.

With no Republican to challenge him in November, Cicconetti is practically assured of getting the judgeship in the general election. The term lasts six years and pays about \$80,000. Cicconetti beat Wilson 3,953 to 3,760 votes, according to unofficial results last night.

"I really do believe it (the victory) goes to people believing in good government, in working together and not having the fighting," Cicconetti, 42, said after the votes were counted. As campaign volunteers and friends were waiting at a victory party at the Elks Club in Painesville, Cicconetti stayed at his office waiting for the final figures before venturing to the celebration.

Wilson, meanwhile, said he intends to retire from politics after his term ends. "At the end of my term, I will return to my private firm and retire from public life," he said.

Both candidates ran high-visibility races big on political endorsements, yard signs and occasional bouts of acrimony. Cicconetti had characterized Wilson as a free-spender who had nearly doubled the court's expenses since 1989. Wilson had called Cicconetti "Lake County's most notorious drunken-driving lawyer," in reference to Cicconetti's law practice.

"It was a tough campaign, and I have to give credit to my opponent to running the toughest campaign I've ever been in," Cicconetti said.

Cicconetti carried Grand River, Painesville and Painesville Township, North Perry and Perry village, and Perry Township.

SEE LAWYER/2-B

ing in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PLAIN DEALER
Cleveland OH

Date: 5/5/93

Edition:

Title:

Character:

Classification:

Submitting Office:

Indexing:

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194-413-Sub 9-7

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 5 1993	
FBI CLEVELAND	
SSRA	

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b7c

MAY PRIMARY



PD/C.H. PETE COPELAND

Lawyer Michael A. Cicconetti is surrounded by relatives and friends as he arrives at the Painesville Elks Club on Liberty St. for a victory party.

Lawyer

FROM/1-B

Wilson took Concord Township, Leroy Township and Madison Township and had slim margins in Fairport Harbor and Madison village — by, respectively, eight votes and one vote.

Although Wilson, 49, had the endorsement of the Lake County Democratic Party, Cicconetti got backing from several prominent Republicans — among them, Lake County Prosecutor Steven C. LaTourette, one of the county's best-known officeholders. Ironically, LaTourette in 1988

beat Cicconetti in the race for prosecutor. LaTourette has fueded with Wilson over Wilson's reluctance to allow assistant county prosecutors to serve in his court.

LaTourette's support, Cicconetti said, was the key to the victory. "I think that carried me over the top," Cicconetti said. "It goes to show that people are more interested in people working together than in party politics. I really think I can attribute the small margins (of



Wilson

victory) to that."

It was not known last night how many Republicans crossed over party lines to vote for Cicconetti, but Cicconetti guessed there were a lot. During the campaign, Cicconetti, a Painesville Township trustee, said the choice was between improving the court system or keeping a bloated budget and distractive political fights with other public officials, including the Painesville City Council.

The judge's courtroom doubles as the City Council chambers. Wilson two years ago used his authority to take down photographs of council members and city bulletins, saying he did not wish to look at City Council members' pictures in his court.

RE:

[REDACTED]
STEVEN C. LATOURETTE;
PUBLIC CORRUPTION MATTERS;
OO: CV
CV 194-0

194D-413 Sub 9

On January 20, 1993, and January 25, 1993, [REDACTED]
was contacted by Special Agent (SA) [REDACTED] and provided
the following information: *w/m*

[REDACTED]

SOURCE is aware that [REDACTED] has an associate by the
name of [REDACTED]

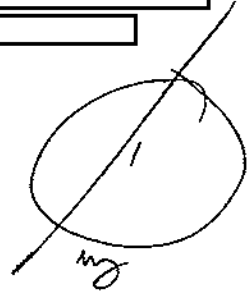
[REDACTED]

SOURCE is aware that [REDACTED]
is also associated with a [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(1) - 194-0
(2)

w/m



194D-413 Sub 9-4

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FEB 04 1993	
CLEVELAND	

R

SOURCE was aware that

b6
b7C
b7D

Judicial race unites former political foes

By Phil Trexler
News-Herald Staff Writer

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LaTourette



Cicconetti

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Indexing:

"It's been apparent for some time now that there's a small group of individuals trying to manipulate the campaign for their own purposes," Wilson said.

"I think it's strictly politics, but strange politics. I think, frankly, the voters are smarter than my opponent gives them credit for. (Having LaTourette) is no benefit to him. I don't know if it will backfire. I just know the voters are smart enough to see through this."

LaTourette said he has not been criticized by other GOP leaders for supporting a Democrat. He likens the Republican support for Cicconetti to the same stream of bi-partisan support that coalesced to put Republican Lake County Sheriff Daniel A. Dunlap into the office held by Republican incumbent Sheriff Patrick Walsh.

"The days voting straight party lines are over," LaTourette said. "If you look at the past several elections, voters are looking for the best candidate, regardless of party affiliation."

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MAY PRIMARY

Lawyer edges Judge Wilson

5/5/93

Cicconetti prevails in Painesville race

By **STEPHEN KOFF**

PLAIN DEALER REPORTER

PAINESVILLE

Lawyer Michael A. Cicconetti appears destined to get the title of Painesville Municipal Court judge, edging out controversial incumbent Judge Neil R. Wilson in yesterday's Democratic primary by 193 votes.

With no Republican to challenge him in November, Cicconetti is practically assured of getting the judgeship in the general election. The term lasts six years and pays about \$80,000. Cicconetti beat Wilson 3,953 to 3,760 votes, according to unofficial results last night.

"I really do believe it (the victory) goes to people believing in good government, in working together and not having the fighting," Cicconetti, 42, said after the votes were counted. As campaign volunteers and friends were waiting at a victory party at the Elks Club in Painesville, Cicconetti stayed at his office waiting for the final figures before venturing to the celebration.

Wilson, meanwhile, said he intends to retire from politics after his term ends. "At the end of my term, I will return to my private firm and retire from public life," he said.

Both candidates ran high-visibility races big on political endorsements, yard signs and occasional bouts of acrimony. Cicconetti had characterized Wilson as a free-spender who had nearly doubled the court's expenses since 1989. Wilson had called Cicconetti "Lake County's most notorious drunken-driving lawyer," in reference to Cicconetti's law practice.

"It was a tough campaign, and I have to give credit to my opponent to running the toughest campaign I've ever been in," Cicconetti said.

Cicconetti carried Grand River, Painesville and Painesville Township, North Perry and Perry village, and Perry Township.

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MAY PRIMARY



PD/C.H. PETE COPELAND

Lawyer Michael A. Cicconetti is surrounded by relatives and friends as he arrives at the Painesville Elks Club on Liberty St. for a victory party.

Lawyer

FROM/1-B

Wilson took Concord Township, Leroy Township and Madison Township and had slim margins in Fairport Harbor and Madison village — by, respectively, eight votes and one vote.

Although Wilson, 49, had the endorsement of the Lake County Democratic Party, Cicconetti got backing from several prominent Republicans — among them, Lake County Prosecutor Steven C. LaTourette, one of the county's best-known officeholders. Ironically, LaTourette in 1988

beat Cicconetti in the race for prosecutor. LaTourette has fueded with Wilson over Wilson's reluctance to allow assistant county prosecutors to serve in his court.

LaTourette's support, Cicconetti said, was the key to the victory. "I think that carried me over the top," Cicconetti said. "It goes to show that people are more interested in people working together than in party politics. I really think I can attribute the small margins (of



Wilson

victory) to that."

It was not known last night how many Republicans crossed over party lines to vote for Cicconetti, but Cicconetti guessed there were a lot. During the campaign, Cicconetti, a Painesville Township trustee, said the choice was between improving the court system or keeping a bloated budget and distractive political fights with other public officials, including the Painesville City Council.

The judge's courtroom doubles as the City Council chambers. Wilson two years ago used his authority to take down photographs of council members and city bulletins, saying he did not wish to look at City Council members' pictures in his court.